Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 00526 01 OF 02 111926Z

44
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DOTE-00

EURE-00 DRC-01 IO-14 OPR-02 /139 W
---------- 078480
P R 111858Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7025
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 00526

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, UK, PINT
SUBJECT: ONCE AGAIN INDUSTRIAL PEACE HOPES RISE

REF: LONDON 0468

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ONCE AGAIN, HOPES HAVE BEEN RAISED THAT A SOLUTION MAY BE FOUND TO THE INDUSTRIAL CRISIS, FOLLOWING THE MEETING OF THE PRIME MINISTER WITH TUC LEADERS YESTERDAY (JANUARY 10). THE LOCOMOTIVE DRIVERS ALSO TOOK A STEP TOWARD PEACE BY DECIDING TO REDUCE SOMEWHAT THE LEVEL OF INDUSTRIAL ACTION. THESE HOPES
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 00526 01 OF 02 111926Z

FOR SETTLEMENT - AS IN THE PAST - COULD BE DASHED, BUT

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

AT LEAST THERE IS ONCE AGAIN MOVEMENT IN THE DIRECTION OF RESOLVING THE CRISIS. END SUMMARY

2. THE PRIME MINISTER, IN A TWO-HOUR MEETING WITH TUC LEADERS LAST NIGHT (JANUARY 10), HEARD THE TRADE UNION GROUP, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SIR SIDNEY GREENE, REPEAT ITS OFFER THAT IT WILL CONSIDER ANY SETTLEMENT WITH THE MINERS A "SPECIAL CASE" AND NOT USE IT, OR QUOTE IT, AS A BASIS FOR THEIR OWN WAGE CLAIMS. IN ADDITION TO SIR SIDNEY GREENE, THE GROUP INCLUDED LEADERS OF THE COUNTRY'S THREE LARGEST UNIONS, THE TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS (TGWU), THE AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING WORKERS (AUEW), AND THE GENERAL AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS (GMWU).

3. HEATH TOLD THE TUC GROUP OF THE SERIOUS ECONOMIC CRISIS BEFORE THE COUNTRY, AND PROMISED TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY ITS PROPOSALS. HOWEVER, HE MADE NO COMMITMENTS. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EMPLOYMENT WILLIAM WHITELAW AND CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER ANTHONY BARBER WERE WITH HIM DURING THE TALKS.

4. SIR SIDNEY GREENE TOLD US THAT IT NOW IS UP TO THE GOVERNMENT. HE BELIEVES THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST NOW MAKE SOME OFFER TO MINERS AND "SEE IF IT RUNS." THE GOVERNMENT HAS TO BE ASSURED, HE SAID, THAT THE MINERS WILL NOT USE THE TUC OFFER - AND GOVERNMENT ACCEPTANCE - TO THINK "THE SKY IS THE LIMIT."

5. ANOTHER MODERATE MEMBER OF THE TUC GENERAL COUNCIL, SIR DAI DAVIES, WHO IS ALSO THE IRON AND STEEL WORKERS' LEADER, TOLD US THAT THE CLIMATE SHOULD NOW BE RIPE FOR AN AGREEMENT. HE NOTED THAT SUCH POWERFUL LEFT-WING LEADERS AS JACK JONES (TGWU) ARE BEGINNING TO GET REALLY WORRIED ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE THREE-DAY WEEK ON THE INDUSTRIES THEY ORGANIZE. THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDS, UNLESS IT IS HELL-BENT ON AN ELECTION, MUST ALSO BE SEEKING A WAY OUT OF THE IMPASSE. THE RUNNING DOWN OF HIS OWN INDUSTRY WILL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 00526 02 OF 02 111927Z

42
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DOTE-00

DRC-01 EURE-00 IO-14 OPR-02 /139 W
---------- 078537
P R 111858Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7026
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 00526

CONTINUE APACE - IT IS NOW PRODUCING AT 50 PERCENT
OF CAPACITY HE SAID - MUST CERTAINLY BE ONE OF THE
FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT (SEE SEPTEL
FOR A REPORT ON A MORE OPTIMISTIC VIEWPOINT OF THE
IMPACT OF THE STEEL SHORTAGE).

6. THE LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS AND FIREMEN (ASLEF), IN
THE MEANWHILE, HAVE DECIDED TO SOFTEN THEIR DISPUTE
BY REMOVING THE "NON-COOPERATION" ASPECTS OF THEIR
INDUSTRIAL ACTION, WHICH HAVE BEEN CAUSING THE MOST
DISRUPTION IN RAIL TRANSPORT. THEY ARE MAINTAINING
THEIR BAN ON OVERTIME AND SUNDAY WORK, HOWEVER, AND
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 00526 02 OF 02 111927Z

HAVE THREATENED A NATIONAL 24-HOUR STRIKE NEXT TUESDAY

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

IF NEW PAY TALKS AREN'T HELD. (SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT THE "REVERSE ACTION" OF ASLEF WAS DUE, IN PART, TO "GET TOUGH" ACTION OF BRITISH RAIL.)

7. AS FOR OTHER "GOOD NEWS" ON THE INDUSTRIAL SCENE, 204,000 POSTAL WORKERS ARE RECOMMENDING ACCEPTANCE OF A PAY INCREASE OF AN AVERAGE 3 A WEEK, WHICH IS BELIEVED TO BE WITHIN STAGE THREE.

8. COMMENT: THE COMING WEEK WILL DEMONSTRATE WHETHER IN FACT THE CURRENT LEVEL OF HOPE IS JUSTIFIED OR NOT. IT WILL NOT BE EASY TO SATISFY THE GOVERNMENT AS TO THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE TUC OFFER, NOR WILL A CONCRETE SETTLEMENT WITH THE MINERS BE QUICKLY REACHED. FURTHER INDICATIONS OF PROGRESS - OR LACK OF IT - WILL BE DEMONSTRATED BY RESULTS OF ANOTHER MEETING BETWEEN HEATH AND THE TUC LEADERSHIP ON MONDAY AND BY THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE OF TUC PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16.

SOHM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON00526
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740148/aaaabtat.tel
Line Count: 190
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LONDON 0468
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ONCE AGAIN INDUSTRIAL PEACE HOPES RISE
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005